THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

Deacon & Peterson, Publishers,

NUMBER SIXTY-SIX SOUTH THIRD ST.

Two Dollars Per Annum, In Advance.

THREE DOLLARS IF NOT PAID IN ADVANCE.

EDMUND DEACON, HENRY PETERSON, } EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER: NEUTRAL IN POLITICS.

} CLUBS.—FOR TERMS TO CLUBS, SEE PROSPECTUS ON THIRD PAGE.

DEVOTED TO MORALITY, PURE LITERATURE, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC NEWS, AGRICULTURE, THE COMMERCIAL INTEREST, SCIENCE, ART AND AMUSEMENT.

VOLUME XXIX. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1850. WHOLE NO. 1484.

Original Poetry.

STANZAS.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

[The following paragraph occurs in an account of the recent storm of the barque "Elizabeth Swift." After relating the escape of the sailors to the rocks, the account says:

The next morning, in searching for fresh water, we found an infant, six weeks old, the son of Mrs. Bailey, it had been washed upon the rocks the morning before, and had contracted many serious injuries. It was alive, and apparently sustained but little injury; we immediately carried it to the surviving ladies, to whose maternal care it owes its life.]

Oh! the wild waste roar'd and our ruin was near,
The deep waters labored with consternation,
Our mast like a reed in the tempest was bent,
And night settled dark on the ocean;
Our gear struggling back through the troubled foam
Was useless and fiercely driven;
And the waves breakers mocked through the misty gloom
While the hopes were nearly riven.

When our "plunging ship on her bosom was cast,
The wail of the stricken and dying
Was heard for awhile on the surging blast,
Then the roam of the strong men crying;
Yea, the mariner strong and the mariner weak,
That night in the mad water perish'd.
But the hearts that were faithful and true to God
The rude waves could not cherish.

What! shall we rail at the anguish and pain
That Nature with its sweets was made?
What power is mine to turn the raging main
When Heaven's wrath has arrayed
In what thunder, wandered back to the fireside heart
Whose words have been a comfort,
To the mother's joy—to the dear babe's love—
Or to a wife's fairy beauty.

What complaint for blood, what cries of despair
Were then in that fearful ocean
And what piteous shrieks the wind bore
From the howling tempest's fountain.
Do not our dead of the waters lie
With hopes in the heavenly ocean
Or the one who survives to weep for his,
But dismal in our human breasts.

At the break of morn as we walked on the shore,
We found on the sand round broken
A tender babe, where the deadening roar
Of the white waves broke endearing.
Nor the cold briny waves of the dark, dirty sea,
Or cruel winter frosts had gelled
All unconscious the while that her helm should be
Even sadly broken on them.

Her an alarming ear looked out through the grove,
And a cool wind over its sweetness,
A Providence watch'd on the unconscious bloom
Of this inopinate babe's existence.
Who that ocean rioting cool breeze
Into sweet spaces of,
In that dark one's fearful chance,
And the tongue tide of this infant preserved,
In a mystery none can believe.

WILLIAM H. WILLARD.

Newport, N. I., Dec. 3rd, 1849.

Pictures of Life.

NEW-YEAR IN THE LITTLE ROUGH-CAST HOUSE.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,
BY MRS. EMMA D. E. N. SOUTHWORTH,
AUTHOR OF "RETRIBUTION," OR, THE VALE OF SHADOWS," "THE DESERTED WIFE," &c.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION.

Bear with me, dear reader, for urging my several claims to the gay holidays. Not that I pause a moment to listen, amid the grand chorus of joy, for the modest voice of the heart-monitor, the half-suppressed wail of suffering, poverty, sickness and sorrow. It is not you many, avoid your rejoicing, reproaches to enjoin this Christmas, while it comes to bring joy to all the earth, and especially to the happiness of the prosperous—Christmas, the religious, the joyous festival, which gives a respite to the sufferings of the poor. It comes at the season that music is most universally felt by those who are not into the designated the strongest points of contrast between their condition and yours. The contrast is felt in proportion to the degree of wealth and in circumstances, from your state to that of the poorest street sweeper, from the richest to the poorest of mankind. The contrast between the prosperous and the suffering brought out in peculiar strength just at this time. It augments their misfortunes—they cannot escape it—for each and the poor are constantly reminded of their poverty. Have you ever seen a poor woman walking through the crowded, lighted, and merry streets of New-York on Christmas or New-Year's Eve? Drawn by a certain fascination to gaze herself by the sight of luxuries that lured her penury, of necessaries, the marks her misery—toys, cases of confectionery, of costumes, and dress, and bijouterie, and the thousand of wealth, stimulating and tantalizing the appetite she cannot satisfy, and which only heightened cheeks, her hungry eye? If you have not, you have gone through the market with eyes so dazzled by the light, so deafened by the noisy tongues, and so intent upon the purchase of your turkey, that you have brushed and hustled past her at every turn, treading on her toes, and scarcely but who accosts you as a stranger? If not now her, you would have got a load of bread and good of butter? in her empty basket, or that her stare, and for that matter, no remonstrance. The contrast was brought out into strong relief. How do you think it felt? Let you did not feel it if you had, you would have given her a chicken for her dinner, or a little of your superfluous for your own. Have you ever seen, during the Christmas or New-Year's Eve, a little child looking wistfully, wistfully into the window of a toy or pastry cook shop, knowing that none of all these fine things are for her? I've seen any, sometimes, that to laws and constitutions are not the consequence of their misery that cannot well without them,"—and so they can; it they were not them, if they never saw the children have them; so it is, it is a privation—not the less keenly felt, because it is a mental and not a physical privation. It is the calling of the poor to bring by contrast that I wish to show. I do not wish to make you sad—not even at the expense of making others glad. I do not wish to cast a cloud over your reunions, but to smile ray of pure sunshine to gild another's cloud. I want you to remember the poor," emphatically at New-Year's time—to remember the poor, the great majority of laborers. I want you, not for the season, to forget the modest gratitude at the sight of your every expenditure. "Assembly!" it is expected at New-Year's times. It looks like a great deal of money, to make all the poor gentlemen, in a community as a whole—but divided, it is a mere trifle—to ten last. Every man and woman in good circumstances has his own or her intimate friends—acquaintances among the very poor—they can not be daily companions, or very intimate friends—but you know them. A very small donation, distributed at this season of New-Year, and the beginning of your year, would make the two or three needy acquaintances of such comfortable for the time, and equalize the enjoyments of New-Year, and soften the harshness, state the friction of the temporarily exaggerated contrast. Now that you have swallowed the pill, you shall have the lump of sugar; not that you have dosed on mild food, you shall have the wrapped eyeball; now if you have learned to the little child, you shall have

CHAPTER II.

THE THREE COTTAGES.

It is a feature in our great sprawling village of Washington City that the rich and flow of the tide of business is very great. The city, during the session of Congress, being busy as the busiest thoroughfares of New York or London, and in the recess of Congress looking as desolate as Gold-smith's Deserted Village. This influence is felt from the wholesale man-hant down to the plain double woman. All classes, from the proprietors of hotels down to the quiet lone-blowing boys, and from the positive down to the President, are over-worked during the session of Congress, and have very little to do in the interval. But several years ago there was a small country at called Washington with a plenty of gold and nothing else—with the benevolent intention of patronizing our city by buying everything that merchandise, we city and literally drove:

And the home breakers mocked through the misty gloom
While the hopes were nearly riven.

Well! Mrs. Lee, who had come, before the session, which our dress-makers, &c., had got out from the Eastern cities, in expectation of their ordeals. Well! Mrs. Lee, who had been long compelled an unreasonable amount of shopping, and was sore at her wife's and fair's pertinacity, make at leisure to make up her splendid ration and calendar for the season. Well! Christmas-day was to come on and come off on Friday evening—to be followed on Saturday evening by a ball at Mrs. Lee's. Well! the ball was to be given in honor of the Hon. Mr. Sandford, of Georgia, and having everything made up by our milliners, marble-makers and confectioners—and—perhaps, as there is a dearth of intelligence in all things connected with the Capitol, the Hon. Mr. Sandford, which our dress-makers, &c., had got

United States SATURDAY POST.

HENRY PETERSON, EDITOR.

Philadelphia:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1850.

ALL THE CONTENTS OF THE POST ARE SET UP EXPRESSLY FOR IT, AND IT ALONE. IT IS NOT A MERE REPRINT OF A DAILY PAPER.

TO POSTMASTERS.

We trust our old friends, the Postmasters, will exert themselves and get up large Clubs for the Mammoth Post; or if they do not feel inclined to take advantage of our liberal offers themselves, that they will show our Prospectus to some other influential and responsible person who will be willing to do so. We think there need be no great difficulty in getting subscribers to the enlarged paper, as those who will take the trouble to compare it with the other weekly papers, cannot fail to perceive that it outshines all competition. Let it be remembered, also, that *the postage is just the same on a first class paper, as on the meanest and poorest of the small reprints.*

NOTICE.

Subscribers wishing their paper changed, will please give the name of the Post Office to be changed *from*, as well as the Post Office they wish it hereafter sent to.

All persons addressing letters to us should be careful to give the name of the State as well as of the town in which they live.

Post Masters or others sending for Clubs, would confer a favor by having them sent to one address when they can do so conveniently.

THE BONNET ROUGE.

Next week we shall conclude Mrs. Southworth's impressive New Year's tale—and the week after, we expect to lead off our series of original novelets with the commencement of Mrs. Stephens's promised story, "The Bonnet Rouge." We shall print an extra edition of this story, but we advise those who wish to receive it, not to delay in sending on their names.

THE UNION.

We quote the following as a sign of the times. It was one of the *regular* toasts at a dinner where many large slaveholders were present, given to Garret Davis, of Kentucky, formerly a member of Congress from that State, by the members of the Louisville Bar:

"*The Union*: Entire, indivisible, and sacred; the strength and glory of the Republic. Next to our Maker, it challenges our highest reverence. We pledge our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor, to maintain it."

A recent poem by the poet Longfellow, entitled "The Building of the Ship," concludes with the following lines:

"Thou, too, sail on, O Ship of State,
Sail on, O Union, strong and great!
Humanity with all its fears,
With all the hopes of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate!
We know what master laid thy keel,
What workmen wrought thy ribs of steel,
Who made each mast, and sail, and rope,
What anvils rang, what hammers beat,
In what a forge and what a heat
Were shaped the anchors of thy hope!
Fear not each sudden sound and shock,
'Tis of the wave and not the rock;
'Tis but the flapping of the sail,
And not a rent made by the gale!
In spite of rock and tempest roar,
In spite of false lights on the shore,
Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea!
Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee—are all with thee!"

The more we think upon the subject of the Union, the less we are able to persuade ourselves that it is really in any danger. It would be such madness to dissolve it—everything being put in peril by such a movement, and nothing gained—that notwithstanding several violent speeches that have recently been delivered in Congress, we are becoming more quiet and composed than ever upon the subject. Even if a justifiable cause for dissolution should really occur to either the South or the North, and we were to become ourselves in favor of disunion, we should despair of preparing the hearts of the people for it, under some fifty or a hundred years. We have been surprised on several occasions, to see how difficult it is to indoctrinate the masses of the people, the great ground-tier of society, with new feelings and ideas. And then again, custom is so powerful over the general mind. It is always difficult, even under the greatest provocation, to overthrow the "powers that be." Oppression may be hard to bear, but it must be long continued, and the old generation must have died out, and a new one impregnated with the idea of resistance and revolution have come upon the stage, before a movement with the least possibility of success can take place. There are always such vast material interests, such numerous classes interested in the preservation of the old order of things—the Government that is, always possesses such great and immediate power—it is always such political orthodoxy to support it, and such political heterodoxy to oppose it—that the chances of success even in a case of real grievance, are ninety-nine to the hundred in favor of the old against the new.

Schiller, in his noble tragedy of "Wallenstein," puts the following soliloquy in the mouth of his hero:

[illegible]

THE PRESIDENT'S WELCOME.

The Hungarian exiles have received a letter from President Taylor, of which the following is an extract:

The people of this Republic have deeply sympathised with the Hungarians in their recent struggle for constitutional freedom, and in the calamities which have befallen their unhappy land; and I am sure that I but speak the universal sentiment of my countrymen, in bidding you and your associates a cordial welcome to our soil, the natural asylum of the oppressed from every clime. We offer you protection and a free participation in the benefits of our institutions and our laws, and trust that you may find in America a second home.

By the way, it is suspected that the lovely and chivalrous Apollonia Jagello, when she visits Boston, will "call out" Mr. Dana, for some passages in his lectures on Woman not altogether complimentary to her sex.

SERVED RIGHT.

An old and "*highly respectable*" farmer, as the newspaper account says, on a recent visit to this city, was taken in by the "drop game," and fifteen dollars taken out of him in exchange for a pocket book full of old paper. As it is also stated that the old and "*highly respectable*" gentleman in question, neither subscribes for or reads a newspaper, we neither wonder at nor care for his misfortune. The man who in these days, does not take a newspaper, deserves to be imposed upon by rogues in all directions—he is lawful prey to such gentry. Not take a newspaper! such an omission should be made a penitentiary offence—what right has a man to bring up his family in ignorance, the fruitful cause of crime?

PROF. REED'S LECTURES.

Prof. Henry Reed announces a course of Lectures in the College Hall, Ninth Street, to commence on Thursday evening, Jan. 3rd, and to be continued on Thursday evenings. The Lectures will be eight in number—upon "Literature as a Means of Culture of Manly and Womanly Character," "English Literature," "Early English Literature," "Literature of the 17th, 18th and 19th Centuries," &c. Mr. Reed's ability and acquaintance with the subject are such, that we may safely predict much instruction and refined pleasure from his Lectures. Tickets admitting a gentleman and lady, or two ladies, three dollars.

DESERET.

The boundaries of the new Mormon State of Deseret, include an area equal to ten States as

United States SATURDAY POST.

Philadelphia:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1850.

CALIFORNIA.

We published the news by the Empire City from California, in a large portion of our edition last week. We here give a summary of it, for the benefit of those whose papers were sent off before it came to hand.

The Empire City brought half a million of gold. Great numbers were at Panama, by the last accounts, waiting for passage. The facilities for reaching the mines had been increased by the new steamer on the Sacramento River, which makes its trip to and from San Francisco to Sacramento City in less than forty-eight hours. All the overland emigration had reached California, and the addition of so vast a number of persons had raised the prices of provisions again very high. The most interesting intelligence is that the State Constitution had been adopted almost unanimously by the people at the election on the 13th inst. The State officers elected are believed to be Peter H. Burnett, Governor; John McDougall, Lieut. Governor, both of the Democratic party, which will also, it is believed, have a majority of the Legislature, and elect Col. Fremont and Mr. Gwinn, formerly member of Congress from Mississippi, United States Senators to Congress. Col. Sater was on the "People's Ticket" for Governor, which was generally supported by the Whigs. Rodman M. Price and J. W. Wright have probably been elected Representatives in Congress.

DEFALCATION.

Prosper M. Wetmore, late U. S. Navy Agent at New York, is accused of being a defaulter to the amount of $25,000. He denies the fact, and says that he will pay any rightful balance against him. Suit has been entered against his sureties.

[COMMUNICATED.]

MEETING OF WOMEN.

A Public Meeting of the Rosine Association, *for the reformation, employment, and instruction of females who have led immoral lives*, will be held at the Lecture Room of the Museum, (entrance on George Street) on the afternoon of 6th, or Friday, January 10th, at 3 o'clock. Women of all denominations are invited to attend, and become acquainted with the proceedings of the Society. It is no sectarian movement. Whenever unfortunate Woman can be saved from vice and infamy, Christian Women should be ready and willing to extend the aid and sympathy that can alone restore them to their own esteem, or that of others, and enable them to re-enter the paths of usefulness and respectability.

Housekeepers are informed, that in consequence of the numerous applications of *Virtuous Women* for homes and employment, the Society, a year since, opened an Intelligence Office at the Institution, No. 204 North Eighth Street, and during that period, they have procured situations for upwards of 500 *respectable Women and Girls*. We hope our friends in both City and Country will remember our office when they have occasion to change domestics. We have many more applicants than we can provide with situations. Individuals or families can have their tailoring, mantua-making, and plain sewing done in the Institution. Thus far we have had to be *beggars*, but we hope the day is not far distant when an increased income will relieve us from that unpleasant necessity.

Ladies who wish to be instructed in *Dress Cutting* can be taught *in the parlor of the house*, by Sarah Bagley, (a lady from Boston,) *in three lessons*. Of the advantages resulting to a family, both in economy and convenience, from the ladies being able to make their own dresses, it is needless to speak. Those who have learned, can be furnished with any number of scales and books.

Congressional News.

THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

SENATE.

On the 27th, numerous petitions, memorials, &c., were presented, one of which was for a Branch Mint in the city of New York.

Mr. Foote, of Mississippi—I gave notice a few days since, that I would ask leave to introduce a bill for establishing the Territorial Government of California, the Deseret, and New Mexico. Instead of so doing, in consequence of the expression of public sentiment, in various quarters, and for the purpose of inducing a full and free fraternal interchange of views on this important subject, I now submit the following resolution, which I do not propose to call up until the Senate shall be full.

Resolved, That it is the duty of Congress, at this session, to establish suitable territorial governments for California, the Deseret, and New Mexico.

Mr. Clemens, of Alabama, submitted the following resolution, which lies over under the rule:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to inform the Senate, as early as practicable, whether any person has been by him appointed civil or military Governor of California since the fourth day of March last; and if so, who has been so appointed, and what compensation has been allowed him. Also, that he be requested to inform the Senate whether any agent has been appointed by the Executive, or any of the departments of the Government, and sent to California, with instructions or authority to organize a State Government for that territory, or to aid and advise the people within its limits in such organization. And further, That he be requested to inform the Senate how the Delegates recently assembled in California, calling themselves a Convention, were elected, by whom the qualifications of the voters were fixed and decided, what these qualifications were, and by what law, the time and places and manner of holding said election was regulated. And further, That he be requested to inform the Senate whether any census of the inhabitants of said territory has been taken, and, if so, by what law, and under what authority. And further, That he be requested to communicate to the Senate all orders, written or verbal instructions, or correspondence with any person as civil or military Governor of California, or as agent on the part of the United States Government in California. And further, That he be requested to inform the Senate whether any steps have been taken by the Executive or any Department of the Government to assemble a Convention in New Mexico for the purpose of adopting a Constitution, and making application for admission [illegible]

Mr. Yulee, of Florida, pursuant to notice, introduced a bill to pay the expenses incurred by the State of Florida in defending her citizens from the late Seminole insurrection.

Mr. Douglass, of Illinois, introduced a bill granting one hundred and sixty acres of public land to the actual settlers thereon. Also, a bill making a liberal donation of public lands to the States in which they be, to pay the expense of a geological survey of said States. Also, a bill for the benefit of the Territory of Minesota.

Mr. Clemens, of Alabama, gave notice of a bill proposing to amend the Constitution, so as to provide for election of Senators by the people.

Mr. Davis, of Mississippi, gave notice of a bill providing a retired list for disabled officers of the army. There was a short executive session before adjournment.

After the transaction of a large amount of routine business, the Senate adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the 27th, after some discussion, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the rules of the House of Representatives, as they existed at the close of the last session of Congress, be adopted as the rules of this House until January 15th, and that a Standing Committee of nine members be appointed, to be styled "the Committee on Rules."

Mr. Venable, of North Carolina, sent up a resolution, which was read by general consent, calling upon the President to communicate to the House, whether, since the last session of Congress any person has been appointed civil or military Governor of California or New Mexico. If so—his name and compensation, and whether the Civil and Military Governor have been united in one office. Also, whether any Governor has issued proclamations calling a Convention in California, or had endeavored to advise and control proceedings, &c.; and that the President communicate copies of all the documents and correspondence in relation to the business attending the elections in California.

Mr. Winthrop, of Massachusetts, insisted on the rules and the resolution was laid over.

Mr. Winthrop moved that fifteen thousand copies of the President's Message and accompanying documents be printed. Adopted.

Mr. Burt, of South Carolina, offered a resolution that the Speaker now appoint the Standing Committees.

Mr. Sackett, of New York, moved an amendment to appoint the Committees by ballot.

Mr. Root, of Ohio, said it was too late to do this. The Speaker was not in the Chair by his vote, but by the vote of his own friends and the connivance of his political enemies, and by a large majority than any of his predecessors. The adoption of the resolution offered by the gentleman from North Carolina, (Mr. Stanley) declaring him Speaker, was the best title to the honor conferred. A Speaker thus confirmed may be trusted with the appointment of the Committees. If the gentlemen had scruples they ought to have thought of them before.

Mr. Giddings rose to carry out the idea of Mr. Root. (Laughter.) When the plurality plan was agreed to, by which the Speaker was elected, he foreknew and predicted the result. Whoever voted for the rule voted for Mr. Cobb's elevation.

Mr. White, of New York, asked Mr. Giddings whether he had suggested any other mode.

Mr. Giddings said he had. He had asked the gentlemen to take a Northern Whig, or any Whig who was right on the Wilmot Proviso. Such a one would have been elected on the second ballot.

Mr. Winthrop would only say a single word. Mr. Giddings has represented him as against the North, and Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, accused him of having so acted in the appointment of the Committees as as to break down the South. He was willing to let these two arguments go.

Mr. Giddings asked the gentleman from Massachusetts which of the two was correct.

Mr. Winthrop, without intending anything disrespectful, did not intend to answer personal interrogations. He had seen statements under the signature of Mr. Giddings, which were without a shadow of foundation and fact. Mr. Giddings voted against me two years ago for the reason which he stated as a fact, but which was utterly false. He accused me of going into a Whig caucus and making a speech in favor of the Mexican war. I have testimony which the House, and the gentleman from Ohio, will be obliged to trust, that this is an entirely erroneous statement. The member from Ohio having failed to withdraw his statement, is no longer entitled to an answer. (Laughter.)

Mr. Giddings—The gentleman from Massachusetts, has read the statement of Mr. Calvin. Is it true or false?

Mr. Winthrop—I deny the whole statement. It is false. The gentleman from Ohio, stated that he had refused to vote for a Speaker who had sedulously constituted the Committee for the District of Columbia, with a view to preserve, protect and maintain the slave trade in this District.

Mr. Giddings—I said arrange a Committee which protected slavery.

Mr. Winthrop—I take the statement as you now make it. The Committee appointed by me reported to the House a bill to abolish the slave trade in the District of Columbia, and when a motion was made to lay it on the table, six out of the nine voted against it.

Mr. Giddings—I understand that the gentleman says that a bill was reported to abolish the slave trade in the District of Columbia. I pronounce that an unfounded and unqualified assertion. The bill prohibiting the bringing of slaves here, and did not touch upon the slave trade in this District.

Mr. Winthrop—It was possible that the bill did not go as far as it ought to have gone. I believe that the gentlemen of the free States thought that it was a great improvement, and it was even assented to by gentlemen of the South.

Mr. Rockwell, of Massachusetts, defended the Committee on Territories of last session, from the attack made by Mr. Giddings.

Mr. Schenck, of Ohio, defined his position and vindicated the course pursued by Mr. Winthrop. He scored Mr. Giddings as bargaining for pledges before he voted for Speaker. He hoped he would be excused for looking to the Democratic side—to William J. Brown—for an illustration. Mr. Schenck said he was a conservative, a unionist, and as a Northern man, he partook of Northern opinions, but he was not so ultra as some of the Northern members, and would not cut others off because they did not come up to his standard.

Mr. Holmes, of South Carolina, was glad the gentlemen had made a declaration of their opinions, and we know that Northern men are against the rights of the South, and wish to restrict them to their territories. The South must arouse herself, and take her attitude. She has been long asleep, but is now aroused. He warned the gentlemen to beware, the Southern mind was fixed.

Mr. Schenck asked whether his colleague had not had an opportunity to vote for a Wilmot Proviso man, as between Messrs. Winthrop and Cobb.

Mr. Giddings said he had voted for a gentleman from Pennsylvania. Mr. G. said that he knew that Mr. Winthrop did sedulously put on the Committee on Territories a majority who had refused to report the Wilmot Proviso until forced to do so.

Mr. Schenck—My colleague inferred, by his remarks, the opposition of Mr. Winthrop to the Wilmot Proviso. I ask, in opposition to that inference, whether Mr. Winthrop did not move the Wilmot Proviso to the Oregon Bill, and whether that proviso was not put into the bill with the aid of your vote, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Giddings—I said that two years ago, when Mr. Winthrop was a prominent candidate for Speaker, he refused to tell what his sentiments were. He referred to his past votes and public [illegible]

General News.

THE COMMITTEES.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives appointed the Committees on the 31st ult. We give the six most important ones:

Committee on Ways and Means.—Thos. H. Bayly, of Va., Chairman; Jacob Thompson, of Mississippi; Samuel F. Vinton, of Ohio; James S. Green, of Missouri; Robert Toombs, of Georgia; William Hebard, of Vermont; William Duer, of New York; George W. Jones, of Tennessee; Moses Hampton, of Pennsylvania.

District of Columbia.—Albert G. Brown, of Mississippi, Chairman; Samuel W. Inge, of Alabama; John L. Taylor, of Ohio; Thomas J. D. Fuller, of Maine; Jeremiah Morton, of Virginia; Edward Hammond, of Maryland; Chas. Allen, of Massachusetts; Christopher H. Williams, of Tennessee; Walter Underhill, of New York.

Judiciary.—James Thompson, of Pennsylvania, Chairman; John K. Miller, of Ohio; George Ashmun, of Massachusetts; Richard K. Meade, of Virginia; Preston King, of New York; Abraham W. Venable, of North Carolina; Thaddeus Stevens, of Pennsylvania; Marshal J. Welborn, of Georgia.

Territories.—Linn Boyd, of Kentucky, Chairman; Wm. A. Richardson, of Illinois; Julius Rockwell, of Massachusetts; James A. Seddon, of Virginia; Thos. L. Clingman, of North Carolina; David S. Kaufman, of Texas; Daniel Gott, of New York; Graham N. Fitch, of Indiana; Joshua R. Giddings, of Ohio.

Foreign Affairs.—John A. McClernand, of Illinois, Chairman; James McDowell, of Virginia; Robert C. Winthrop, of Massachusetts; Hugh A. Haralson, of Georgia; Henry W. Hilliard, of Alabama; Joseph A. Woodward, of South Carolina; Frederick P. Stanton, of Tennessee; Alexander W. Buel, of Michigan; Elbridge G. Spaulding, of New York.

Manufactures.—Lucius B. Peck, of Vermont, Chairman; Franklin W. Bowdon, of Alabama; John W. Houston, of Delaware; Chauncey F. Cleveland, of Connecticut; Daniel Breck, of Kentucky; Thomas Ross, of Pennsylvania; James L. Orr, of South Carolina; Alfred F. Owen, of Georgia.

MR. CLAY ON COLONIZATION.—The Hon. Henry Clay recently sent the following letter to a Committee of the Colonization Society of Virginia:

WASHINGTON, 8th Dec., 1849.

Gentlemen:—I have received here your official letter inviting my attendance at the Colonization meeting of the Virginia Society, intended to be held at the Capitol in Richmond, the 8th inst., and to partake of its proceedings. Continuing to feel the liveliest interest in the African Colonization of the free people of color in the United States; having all my original impressions in favor of the scheme strengthened and confirmed by successful experience; and now entertaining no doubt of its entire practicability, and of its being susceptible of an expansion so as to colonize, in reasonable time, all the colored people of the United States, now free, or who may be hereafter emancipated, I should be most happy to accept your invitation, and to assist in the endeavor of giving a new and more vigorous impulse to the efforts of the Virginia Society. On other accounts, it would afford me much personal gratification to visit the Capital of my native State. But I regret, gentlemen, that my public duties do not allow me to leave this city at the time proposed.

I am, with high respect, your obedient servant,

H. CLAY.

SINGULAR INCIDENT IN A MAD HOUSE.—Some months since, an incident occurred in our city lunatic hospital, of a very peculiar character. A mother and daughter both became inmates, and were placed in the same story of the building, where they had access to the same hall. They met, and recognised each other, though one had left the other years ago, in Ireland. Both had crossed the ocean, become residents here, and lost all knowledge of the other's history or fate; both became bereft of reason, and came upon the public for support, and in a mad house, surrounded by those who were hopelessly insane, the child and parent, and though reason was dethroned, and each was there with a "mind diseased," yet nature triumphed over the clouded intellect, and, for a brief moment, the parties talked of the land of their birth, and when they had separated from each other. The incident is of romantic interest, sufficient to suit the most anxious inquirer after extraordinary adventures.—*Boston Herald, December 20.*

KENTUCKY STATE CONVENTION.—A convention has been sitting at Frankfort, Ky., to revise the organic law of that State, and it has made some considerable changes which are now submitted to the people, the convention being adjourned till June next, when the constitution will be proclaimed, provided the people approve it. The main features of the alterations are biennial sessions of the Legislature, limited in their duration to sixty days. No debts to be contracted without the people's consent at the polls. Private and special legislation forbidden. Judges to be elected by the people. The resources of the sinking fund to be inviolably appropriated to the public debt. The school fund to be dedicated to a system of primary schools. The relation between master and slave remains as it was under the old constitution. The constitution provides that no slave shall be emancipated but upon condition that such emancipated slave be sent out of the State.

COMMON SCHOOL CONVENTION.—The State Common School Convention will be held in Harrisburg on the third Wednesday in January. [illegible]

☞ The Express, with the President's Message, reached Albany in 4 hours 40 minutes from New York—distance 192½ miles—rate of running 45 miles an hour.

☞ Mr. Wm. Miller, somewhat noted for raising a Second Advent party in the country, died on the 20th ult., aged 68 years, at his residence at Low Hampton, N. Y. He was a native of Pittsfield, Mass.

☞ Franklin, in his homely way, solved the whole question as to the superiority of the sexes, when he said that man and woman were like the two sides of a pair of shears, between which the point of precedence could never arise, because neither was good for anything without the other.

TRAVELLING AGENTS.

Mr. ISRAEL E. JAMES, No. 182 South Tenth Street, Philadelphia, is our general Travelling Agent, assisted by *James K. Whipple, William H. Weld, O. H. P. Stem, John Collins, James Deering, A. Kirk Wellington, Chas. S. Hall, E. A. Evans, Jas. Clark, John W. Allen, and P. Locke.*

Also, CHAS. S. HALL, for and in Arkansas.

Mr. C. W. JAMES, No. 1 Harrison Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, is our general travelling agent for the Western States; assisted by *J. R. Smith, J. T. Dent, Jason Taylor, J. W. Armstrong, Perrin Locke, W. Ramsay, and G. Steinman.*

Mr. HENRY M. LEWIS, of Montgomery, Alabama, is our general travelling agent for Alabama, and Tennessee, assisted by *B. B. Brett.*

R. MORRIS & Co., are our travelling agents in Mississippi.

WILLIAM A. PIERCE is our only Collector of Bills in Pennsylvania.

CHARLES S. ROWLEY will receive subscriptions from new subscribers in the State of Ohio.

MORTIMER T. WEBB, do. do. for New York State.

JUSTUS WHITE, do. do. and collects for us in New York and the Canadas.

GEORGE H. BAXTER, do. do. in Illinois.

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

MAY be obtained weekly at the Periodical Depots of HOTCHKISS & Co., *Boston, Mass.*
Of MILTON BOULEMET, *Mobile, Alabama.*
Of J. C. MORGAN, *New Orleans, La.*
Of GEO. W. NOBLE, *Louisville, Ky.*
Of J. GISH & BROTHER, *Lancaster, Pa.*
Of W. TAYLOR & Co., *Baltimore, Md.*
Of SAFFORD & PARK, *Norwich, Connecticut.*
Of F. HAGAN & Co., *Nashville, Tenn.*
Of S. W. PEASE & Co., *No. 24 Sixth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.*
Of WELD & Co., *New Orleans, La.*
Of J. W. RANDOLPH & Co., *Richmond, Va.*
Of W. ADAM, *Washington, D. C.*

Subscriptions will be received at either of the above mentioned Depots. But the proprietors of the Post hold themselves responsible only for money received directly by themselves, or through their authorized travelling agents.

The Markets.

PHILADELPHIA MARKET.

SATURDAY, Dec. 29, 1849.

REMARKS—The transactions in all descriptions of mdze. since our last weekly report, have been on a very restricted scale, as is usual during the closing week of the year. The Cotton market is firm, in consequence of the unfavorable accounts from the South. The receipts of Flour and Grain have been very small, and prices are well maintained. Exchange on England continues at 108a108½.

Among the exports from Philadelphia to foreign ports during the week ending the 28th inst. we notice the following articles:

Flour, bbls.	5,525	Corn, bush.	1,840
Corn Meal,	1,840	Peas, &c.,	320
Bread,	1,703	Beef, bbls.	40
Bacon, lbs.	6,444	Lard, lbs.	28,667

FLOUR AND MEAL—The export demand for Flour has been limited during the past week, but the supplies have been light, and prices are fully sustained; sales of 6,000 bbls fair and good brands at $4.87½; at the close some holders would not accept this price; for city consumption prices range from $4.87½ to 5.50. Rye Flour has been in limited request; sales of 500 bbls at $2.87½a3. Corn Meal is dull; a few hundred bbls Pennsylvania sold at $2.75 per bbl.

The inspections of Flour and Meal during the week ending the 28th inst. was as follows:

Wheat Flour	bbls	8,707
Rye Flour	bbls	177
Corn Meal	bbls	1,401

GRAIN—The demand for Wheat has been limited, but prices are steady; sales of 8,000 bushels good and prime red at $1.05a1.06 per bushel. Rye is scarce and wanted; a sale of 2,500 bushels Northern at 62c. Corn—The demand has been moderate, and prices are steady—sales of 12,000 bushels, new yellow at 55a56c, but principally at the latter rate, including some old and new mixed at 57, and old at 58a60. Oats are scarce; Southern are worth 32a33, and Pennsylvania at 35c per bushel.

PROVISIONS—The demand for Pork continues limited, and only a few hundred bbls Mess sold at $11.62a12 per bbl, but mostly at the latter rate; we quote Prime at $8.75. Mess Beef sells in small lots for ship stores at $13a13.50. Bacon continues in limited request; sales of Hams at 7½a10, Sides 5½, and Shoulders at 4½a4½c. Lard sells slowly at 6¼a6½c per lb in bbls and kegs. Sales of Butter in kegs at 9½a11c. Cheese ranges from 7 to 9c per lb.

AMERICAN FABRICS—The sales are limited, at steady prices.

BARK—The market is poorly supplied with Quercitron Bark; sales of 40 hhds No. 1 at $35 per ton, and one small lot at $30.

BEESWAX—Is scarce; several lots of good Yellow sold at 21c per lb cash.

CANDLES—Continue in limited request, but prices are steady at 30a32c per lb for Sperm, and 10a11c for Dipt and Mould Tallow.

COAL—The demand for shipment continues limited, [illegible]

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

UNRIVALED INDUCEMENTS FOR 1850.

The proprietors of the Saturday Evening Post, in coming before the public with a new Prospectus, would respectfully solicit attention to what they have done in the past, as a guarantee for their promises of the future. They may safely say, that no other paper in America has given to its readers so large and well chosen an amount of all kinds of reading, elegant and useful, imaginative and practical, during the last year, as the POST. To say nothing of other tales and sketches, what paper has laid before its subscribers during the past year, four such novelets as "Henry Benson," "The Child Stealer," "Isabel Denison," and "The Deserted Wife!"

And the proprietors of the Post are determined that, if possible, the coming year shall be even a more brilliant one than the past. To begin with, they have already secured the following original contributions, which will be published, with many other choice pictures of life, during the coming year:

THE BAYMOUNTS: A NOVELET, by MISS LESLIE; author of "Mrs. Washington Potts," &c., &c.

THE BRIDE OF AN EVENING, A TALE OF WESTERN LIFE A NOVELET, by MRS. SOUTHWORTH, author of "Retribution," "The Deserted Wife," &c.

THE OLD ASTROLOGER, OR, THE PROPHECY FULFILLED: A NOVELET, by T. S. ARTHUR, author of "Agnes, or the Possessed," "The Child Stealer," &c.

THE BELLE AND THE BLUE: A NOVELET, by CAROLINE LEE HENTZ, author of "The Mob Cap," "Aunt Patty's Scrap Bag," &c.

THE BONNET ROUGE; A TALE OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION; by MRS. ANN S. STEPHENS, author of "Palaces and Prisons," "Malina Grey," &c., &c.

We have also made arrangements with GRACE GREENWOOD, for a NEW SERIES of her spirited and interesting LETTERS, during the coming year.

But the columns of the POST are not for fiction (however instructive and impressive) alone. We shall continue to devote a large portion of the paper to more solid and substantial reading; such as is calculated to improve and inform the intellect, and to ennoble and purify the heart. Whatever is best in the pages of the foreign and domestic magazines and reviews, shall be laid under contribution to inform and enlighten our readers.

The *NEWS OF THE DAY* shall also be, as heretofore, carefully sifted, and what is important treasured in our columns.

Matters of interest to business men, a *BANK-NOTE LIST*, a *STOCK LIST*, the *MARKETS*, &c., shall be weekly laid before them.

For the *FARMER*, a dozen agricultural periodicals are carefully searched, and the best matter selected for our *AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.*

One or more *PORTRAITS* of remarkable persons, or *PICTURES* of remarkable places are also weekly given.

In short, whatever is calculated to refine, instruct, amuse, or gratify, shall find its appropriate place in the POST; and let the reader mark one thing, whatever others may *promise*, we will not be behind in the *performance*. A paper that has stood for twenty-eight years, steadily progressing all that time, and which has now perhaps the *largest* list of subscribers of any weekly paper in the United States, is not to be left behind in the race by *any* rival. The *increase* alone of our subscription list last year, is equal to the *whole circulation* of many of our imitators.

TERMS.

The terms of the POST are $2 if paid in advance—$3, if not paid in advance. For $5 one copy is sent three years.

In order to accommodate that large number of persons who wish to take a first class paper, but mistakingly think they cannot afford it, we continue the following low terms for Clubs, to be sent, in the city, to one address, and, in the country, to one post-office.

4 COPIES,			$ 5.00,	PER ANNUM.
8	"	(And one to Agent, or the getter up of the Club.)	$10.00,	"
13	"	(And one to Agent, or the getter up of the Club.)	$15.00,	"
20	"	(And one to Agent, or the getter up of the Club.)	$20.00,	"

Any person having sent the money and names for a Club, may add new names to it at the same rate, provided the latter will allow their subscriptions to end at the same time those of the main list do. We will willingly supply the back numbers if we have them. Our object is to have all the subscriptions in each Club, end at one and the same time, and thus prevent confusion.

The money for Clubs must always be sent in advance. Subscriptions may be sent at our risk.—When the sum is large, a draft should be procured if possible—the cost of which may be deducted from the amount. Address, *always post-paid.*

DEACON & PETERSON, NO. 66 SOUTH THIRD STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

N. B.—No deviation from the regular Terms will be practised. If less money is sent for a Club than we have agreed to take in our Prospectus, *we shall, in all cases, keep the money, and send only as many copies as it will pay for.*

N. B.—Any person desirous of receiving a copy of the POST as a sample, can be accommodated by notifying the publishers by letter, *post-paid.*

A GREAT NOVEL.
BY THE AUTHOR OF "JANE EYRE."

AGNES GREY.
AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY.
By the author of "Jane Eyre," "Shirley," "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall," &c., &c.

INSTEAD of praising the work ourselves, we will ask all persons to read the following notices of it, being only a few of the recommendations it has.

In its development of characters, it is quite up to "Jane Eyre" or "Shirley," and better than "Wildfell Hall." The flirtation of Rosalie Murray with Hatfield is told as no other writer could tell it, and is a proof, if one was wanted, that these works of fiction are all by the same hand, or, as we suspect, the joint work of two authors.—*Mammoth Saturday Gazette.*

Any one who takes up this volume is likely to be so attracted by the intense interest of the narrative, that he would sit up the whole night, and when surprised by the break of dawn and the close of the tale, wish that all were to begin over again.—*London Morning Post.*

A novel of rare merit and intense interest.—*Messenger.*

A creation worthy of Scott, and equal to "Jane Eyre" or "Shirley."—*John Bull.*

REVOLUTION IN PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

HOLDEN'S ILLUSTRATED DOLLAR MAGAZINE.

SINCE the death of the proprietor of this popular magazine, the property has passed into the hands of the subscriber, who will continue to publish it at the publication office No. 109 Nassau Street, New York.

THE NEW VOLUME,

To be commenced on the first of January, 1850, will comprise many important improvements, which, it is believed, will render the magazine one of the best periodicals published in the country, as it certainly is the cheapest. Among these improvements will be new and beautiful type, fine calendered paper, a higher order of illustrations than those heretofore given, and contributions from some of the ablest writers in America. It is the aim of the proprietor to publish a popular magazine, adapted to the wants of all classes of reading people in the Republic, which shall be both instructive and amusing, and free alike from the grossness which characterises much of the cheap literature of the day, and from the vapidity of the so-called "Ladies Magazines." The illustrations will consist of Original Drawings engraved on wood by the best artists;

PORTRAITS OF REMARKABLE PERSONS AND VIEWS OF REMARKABLE PLACES,
illustrated by pen and pencil. A strict revision will be [illegible]

Selected Poetry.

DEDICATION
TO THE NEW VOLUME OF POEMS
BY H. W. LONGFELLOW

"As one who, walking in the twilight gloom,
Hears onward where his way seems as it darkens,
And seeking not the cause from which they come,
Pauses from time to time, and turns and listens;
So pausing here in twilight, O my friends!
I hear your voices, softened by the distance,
And pause, and turn to listen, as each ends
His words of friendship, comfort, and remembrance.

"If any footsteps of mine, or song or toil,
Have ever given you aught of inspiration,
Or any human soul such a boon craved,
Be here enjoyed one hour, a thousand fold,
By every friend who hears me or pictured there!

"Pardon me each, I never shall feel ill,
Will eye of sense, your outward form and semblance!
Therefore to me to sense will grow old,
But live for ever young in my remembrance

"Never grow old, nor change, nor pass away!
Your gentle voices will flow on for ever,
When life's graves have and invaded with decay!
As through a hidden landscape flows a river.

"Not chaos of both—nor has made its friends,
Being oftentimes of different tongues and nations,
But the whole race of humankind intends
With the same hopes, and fears, and aspirations.

"Therefore I hope to join your seaside walk,
Sheltered and sunny where it is secluded,
Not interrupting with intrusive talk
The grand, majestic symphonies of ocean.

"Therefore I hope, as no unwelcome guest,
At your warm fireside, when the leaves are falling,
To have my place reserved among the rest,
Nor stand as one unnoticed and unknown."

From New Works.

MAHOMET:
HIS LIFE AND CHARACTER.

BY WASHINGTON IRVING.

Mahomet, according to accounts, handed down by tradition from his contemporaries, was of the middle stature, square built and strong, with large hands and feet. In his youth he was uncommonly strong and vigorous; in the latter part of his life he inclined to corpulency. His head was capacious, well shaped and small set on a neck which rose like a pillar from his ample chest. His forehead was high, broad at the temples, and crossed by veins extending down to the eyebrows, which swelled wonderful he was angry or excited. He had an aquiline nose, and large expressive features, an opaline nose, black eyes, arched eyebrows which extended across the whole space, flexible, indicative of eloquence, very white teeth, somewhat parted and irregular; black hair which was not without a curl on his shoulders; a beard full and very full beard.

His complexion, in general, was ruin and sunable; he sometimes indulged in pleasantry, but more commonly was grave and dignified, though he is said to have possessed a mode of captivating sweetness. His complexion was more ruddy than is usual with Arabs, and in his excited and enthusiastic moments there was a glow and radiance in his countenance, which the disciples imagined into the supernatural light of prophecy.

His intellectual qualities were undoubtedly of an extraordinary kind. He had a quick apprehension, a retentive memory, a vivid imagination, and an inventive genius. During half little is authentic, he had quickened an inherited ha mind by close observation, and stored it with a great variety of knowledge concerning the systems of religion current in his day, as handed down by tradition from antiquity. His ordinary discourse was grave and sententious, abounding with those aphorisms and apologues so popular among the Arabs; at times he was excited and eloquent, and his eloquence was aided by a voice musical and sonorous.

He was sober and abstemious in his diet, and a rigorous observer of facts. He indulged in no magnificence of apparel, the ostentation of a petty mind; neither was his simplicity in dress affected, but the result of a taste disposed to the distinction from an extreme. His garments were sometimes of wool; sometimes of the striped cotton of Yemen, and were often patched. He wore a turban, for he said turbans were worn by the angels; and in arranging it he let one end hang down between his shoulders, which he said was the way they wore it. He forbade the wearing of clothes entirely of silk, but permitted a mixture of thread with silk. He forbade also red clothes and the use of gold rings. He wore a seal ring of silver, the engraved part under his finger close to the palm of his hand, bearing the inscription, "Mahomet, the messenger of God." He was scrupulous not to pronounce conclusions, and observed frequent ablutions. In some respects he was a voluptuary. "There are two things in this world," would he say, "which delight me, women and perfumes. Those two things rejoice my eyes, and render more fervent my devotions." From his extreme cleanliness, and the use of perfumes and of tooth-stick, he was said to be remarkably scent that sweetness and fragrance of person, which his disciples considered innate and miraculous. His persons for the use had no influence over all his efforts. It is said that when on the pinnacle of his fortune, he was continually smoothing his beard and adjusting his hair, as if desirous to appear to advantage.

The number of his wives is uncertain. Abulfeda, who writes with more caution than others of the Arabian authorities, limits it to fifteen, though some make it as much as twenty-four. At the time of his death he had nine, each in her separate dwelling, all in the vicinity of the mosque at Medina. The plan alleged for indulging in a greater number of wives than is permitted to his followers, was a desire to beget a race of prophets for his people. If children were born to his wives, it was disappointed. Of all his children, Fatima, the wife of Ali, alone survived him, and she died within a short time after his death. Of her descendants, none excepting her eldest son Hassan ever sat on the throne of the Caliphs.

In his private dealings he was just. He treated friends and strangers, the rich and poor, the powerful and the weak, with equity, and was related by the common people for his affability with which he received them, and listened to their complaints.

He was naturally irritable, but brought his temper under great control, so that even in the self-indulgent intercourse of domestic life he was kind and tolerant. "I married him from the time I was eight years old," said his servant Anas, "and he never scolded me for any thing, though things were spoiled by me."

The question now occurs, was the imposition glaring and premeditated, or has been represented? Were all his visions and revelations deliberate falsehoods, and was his whole system a tissue of deceit? In considering this question, we first bear in mind that he is not chargeable with many extravagancies which exist in his name. Many of the visions and revelations handed down as having been given to him are monstrous. The whole is inscribed in him are all fabrications of Moslem zealots. He expressly and repeatedly declared all miracles excepting the former, which, considering its incomparable merit, and the way in which it had come down to him from Heaven, he pronounced the greatest of miracles. And here we must indulge a little digression in this famous document. While zealous Moslems assume of the most eminent authors on the Arabian dark ages of the divine origin of the Koran, the acute sagacity of Gibbon has detected and pointed out many of its gross contradictions, its incongruities of style and composition, and the several different hands of Mahomet from which parts were pronounced of a class of treatises and authors, without method or arrangement; full of obscurities, incoherencies, repetitions, false revelations of Scriptural stories, and direct contradictions. The truth is, that the Koran, or at least a part of it, is the same Koran delivered by Mahomet to his disciples. The subsequent additions, corruptions and interpolations. The revelations confirmed at different times, and on various occasions, and before various persons, sometimes they were taken down by an secretary or disciples on parchment, on palm leaves, or shoulder-blades of sheep, and thrown together in a chest, or trunk, one of his wives charged with the custody. Here they were merely transcribed up in the memories of those who heard them. No care appears to have been taken to systematize and arrange them during his life; and of no doubt they remained in scattered fragments, many of them at the mercy of fallacious memories. It was not until several years after his death, that Abu Bekar undertook to have them gathered together and transcribed. Zeid Ibn Thabet, who had been one of the secretaries of Mahomet, was employed for the purpose. He professed to know many parts of the Koran by heart, having written them down under the direction of the prophet. After parts he collected, some many from various sheets, written down in the rude way we have mentioned, by various disciples who professed to have heard them uttered by the prophet himself. The heterogeneous fragments thus collected were thrown together without selection, without chronological order, and without system of any kind. The volume thus formed received the name of Alcoran, was transcribed by different hands, and many professed copies put in circulation and dispersed throughout the Moslem cities. So many errors, interpolations, and omissions occurred, that soon crept into these copies, that Othman, the third Caliph, called in the various manuscripts, and causing a just be examined by a committee, caused all the others to be destroyed.

* * *

If we are far from considering Mahomet the gross and impudent impostor that some have represented him, we also are unfavorable to give him credit for that vast forecast, and for that deeply reticular knowledge of universal character which have been ascribed to him. He was, undoubtedly, a man of great genius and of a sagacious penetration, but it appears in us that he was, in a great degree, the creature of impulse and excitement, and was led from day to day by circumstances. His schemes grew out of his fortunes, and not his fortunes out of his schemes. He was forty years of age before he first broached his doctrines. He had a rich grandfather, being wealthy, wealthy, that one who had only a rich father. In England, as is well known, it is just the contrary; the latter is considered a man of the more his means, and having a wealthy merchant he had sunk to be a land merchant. When he reached Medina he had no idea of the power that awaited him; his only object was to found a temple for suggestive religion, might preach, and his only hope that he might be allowed to preach with impunity. When power suddenly fell upon him, he used it for a time in petty forays and local feuds. His military plans required much time to mature, and were often disconcerted by accidents. His civil regulations grew gradually with the circumstances that required them. They were not struck out with the heat of an inventor, but put into progress the nearly development which self-intelligence has accredited.

* * *

[illegible] Mr. Jefferson was asked respecting Bonaparte, and he answered that he could not find out myself alone. Its evidence before the world is to be sought in my life; if that has been innocent and dutiful to society, the religion which has regulated it cannot be a bad one."

Wit and Humor.

ACCOUNTING FOR THE SALE OF THE SEAL.—There is a pleasant story in Dumas' happy natural way, as he is apt to be in "Caucasus" A dispute once was held under the presidence of the Marquis Antoine, on the causes of the success of the Arabs. No theory proved acceptable to the majority. A certain Signor Perelli, (not our Perelli,) asked leave to offer his explanation, which was accepted as recorded.

"I appear to me," said the Signor, "that you are very wide of the mark: the cause is no mysterious one, if you would but look at it with common sense."

"Certainly, certainly, Signor Perelli."

"Why, then, I say that the Signor Perelli, to use a single question."

"Is the seal, Signor Perelli."

"Very well," said Signor Perelli, "does not astronomy tell us that the earth is a globe, and that it is distributed in nearly all seas, and in vast quantities?"

"There is not a doubt of it, Signor Perelli."

"Very well, then," pursued the Signor Perelli, "what more natural inquiry?"

"Why is not so," said the Marquis Ardin, "if at all, it is not natural to the Arabs."

And the discovery was entered on the records.

FRENCH OPINION MISCONCEIVED.—Half a century ago, there lived in England a Sir Sidebottom, the owner of a large estate, and a large family. One of the thousand natural shocks that flesh is heir to, overtook the unfortunate Sir Sidebottom. His Doctor lived on a splendid palace called Sidebottom Hall, and his family, and his estate, and his title, surrounded with grounds in which nature and art went in one at outvieing each other. He rode in a splendid carriage drawn by four horses, and was adorned on the panels with his coat of arms (which was granted to the Doctor in one act) that he was not to a man who stepped up to the carriage, and with an awkward bolting of the door in stopping of the foot, inquired of Sir Sidebottom himself, "Is this Dr. Sidebottom?" "Yes!" "Well, then, I suppose you are the owner of this?" "Well, I am proud of it." "Ah! then take it all together you've got a pretty good thing of it, haven't you?" "Yes, sir, I think myself pretty well off." "Well, then, I'll be bound, was complacent; but nothing himself. The last was the only one that he was in his eye speculated a front of most entire, and he was in close acquaintance with the complete ale and gone before him.

It is difficult to pronounce such acutest, pronounced, and so far from the mark, as this. Yet, with some importance, not such pure and elevated and humorous prosperity as are contained in the Bible, with a most beautiful by gentle patience, and endurance in the great calamities of human life, and we find no other satisfactory mode of solving the enigma of his character and conduct, but by supposing him to be the dupe of his own imposture which flashed upon his enthusiastic spirit in the religious excitement of the circumstances of Mount Hara, continued more or less to the end of his career, and that he died in the belief of his mission as a prophet.

Miscellaneous.

SHEEP AND WOLVES.

—Strange that wolves persecute sheep so every where!" said Hardcut, with a sagacious shake of the head. "Strange that sheep don't know it! Strange that the sheep must be aware of it, and dread their enemies!"

"Don't suppose that," observed Stevenson; "strange to say that the thing is originally the reverse. I have frequently observed it myself, and well. When I removed to an unsettled district, I found the sheep confounding, but in a few times the case, I have not lost a single sheep for them would be, themselves, sometimes come within the whole first year, and that surprised me the more, as I had been told that the wolves frequented tracts of wolves. At a subsequent period, I was more accidentally witness to the cause of these being so strangely conducted. I had already been sheltered to me by various circumstances. I have frequently observed the wolf in the young sole, or else was not so well sheltered in the sheep-walk, and that I had not the full advantage of all difficulties. No bad results could arise from the sheep, and I was safe.

* * *

THE SCHISM PUNCH.—A political editor, speaking of the tenacity with which an adversary clings to his opinions, and of the impossibility of a person good old lady or Bridgewater, who, on seeing a religious controversy with a neighbor who was then dwelling on the subject, and was wrong with the wrong side, or else was not so well skilled in the matter, was charged by the other with being one proof other another; until at last there was no one left to take part with him. "Why, Mrs. Jones," said one, "surely up by majority." "Majority!" said she, wrought up by majority, you may look to me till doomsday, and I'll never be in the majority. I'll cling to that last as long as I live."

THE TURTLE.—A good story is told as an English paper of a turtle. A gentleman dining with two lately purchased stood out at his guest to help himself to a piece of it; and the knight of the hammer was pausing for a choice beyond that the cushion, when the former, impatiently thrusted, began to, testily, "Come, come, parson, never stand to pick and choose, but take what you can get." "Why, sir," replied the parson, "I am not in the habit of eating turtle, and I was not aware that I had any right to help myself." "Right!" exclaimed the host, "why, I'll be bound you have had more than your share already." "Indeed, sir," said the parson, "I am not aware of it." "Why, then," said the host, "